

Subject: Avian Influenza Fowl Pox Vaccine, H5 Subtype, Live Fowl Pox Vector

Q. What environmental conditions should I keep the vaccine at?

A. You must store the vaccine at 2-7° C until you administer it. Freezing or excessive or prolonged heat will destroy the vaccine. Exposure to light or immersion in liquid will also destroy the vaccine. Cold packs in our shipment carton will maintain the vaccine at 2-7° C for approximately one day. Thereafter, you will need some way to maintain the vaccine at proper temperatures and prevent its exposure to light and its immersion in liquid while it is in transit, storage, and on site. Once you rehydrate (dissolve) the vaccine with diluent, you must use it within one hour.

Q. What refrigerated storage capacity should I plan for the vaccine?

A. Your specific requirements for refrigeration will depend largely on the size of local populations that you have to vaccinate.

The minimum quantity of vaccine we will ship is one million doses. We package the vaccine in 3ml vials, which are 1.5 inches tall and 0.5 inches in diameter. Up to fifty vials fit into a shipment carton that is 8 inches long, 4 inches wide, and 2 inches high. Depending on antigen concentration during conversion, each vial may ultimately contain 1000, 2000, or 4000 doses of vaccine. A label on the vial will identify the actual concentration. Because concentrations may be different, one shipment carton may contain 50,000 to 200,000 doses of vaccine. At the lowest concentration of antigen, 50 million doses of vaccine will occupy approximately one cubic foot of storage.

Q. Does the vaccine require diluent?

A. Yes. The vaccine requires 200 ml of diluent per 1000 doses.

Q. Does diluent come with the vaccine shipment?

A. Yes

Q. What storage should I plan for the diluent?

A. Your requirement for storage will depend on the size of local populations that you have to vaccinate. We package diluent in translucent plastic IV soft bags that come in various sizes each of which has an injection port. The following table describes our shipments of diluent. Please note the weight of a pallet that we ship will likely require materiel handling equipment (e.g. a forklift or pallet jack) to offload and move the pallet.

Diluent Bag size in ml	200	400	800
Bags in a box	36	24	16

Boxes on a pallet (5 rows, 10 boxes per row)	50	50	50
Box size in inches	12x16x10	12x16x10	12x16x10
Approximate box wt in pounds	21	26	33
Pallet size in inches LxWxH	40x48x54	40x48x54	40x48x54
Pallet wt in pounds	1054	1289	1660
Vaccine doses each box of diluent will rehydrate	36000	48000	64000
Vaccine doses each pallet of diluent will rehydrate	1.8 Million	2.4 Million	3.2 Million

Q. Do I need to refrigerate the diluent?

A. Diluent does not require refrigeration. You may store it under normal warehouse conditions. However, it should be less than 30° C and ideally 2-7° C when you use it to rehydrate the vaccine.

Q. Does your vaccine shipment include needles and syringes?

A. Not yet. We are evaluating whether to include needles and repeating syringes in the stockpile.

Q. How should I dispose of unused vaccine?

A. Burn or autoclave opened containers and residual contents prior to disposal. You should dispose of all vaccine you take to a location whether you use it or not. Otherwise, you run the risk of spreading infection at another location due to inadequate decontamination of unused vaccine or administering vaccine that decontamination has compromised.

Q. Whom should I contact for information on vaccination protocols; i.e. how to, where to, complications, disposal?

A. For questions, concerns, or complications related to the use of this product, contact the Program Coordinator at the USDA-APHIS Center for Veterinary Biologics, 515-232-5785.